



**MEASURE J RE-IMAGINE LA  
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND  
SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Monday, March 8, 2021, 4:00PM**

- 1. The Economic Opportunity and Sustainability Subcommittee was called to order by Mari Ryono at 4:02 p.m.**
- 2. Introduction and Grounding**
  - a. Ivette provided that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss draft recommendations based on ideas previously shared during subcommittee meetings.
  - b. Ivette also discussed the overall decision-making process for the subcommittee funding recommendations
    - i. Reviewed process of how recommendations go from the subcommittee to how the decisions will be made by the County Board of Supervisors
  - c. Meeting facilitator Mari reviewed the group agreements and meeting goals.
- 3. Panel Presentation - Community Power in Collective and Equitable Resourcing**
  - a. Ivette introduced the following presenters:**
    - i. Kristania De Leon – Participatory Budgeting Project
    - ii. David DeVaughn and Jose Serrano-McClain – HR&A
    - iii. Diana Zuniga – LA County Department of Human Services
  - b. HR& A Presentation**
    - i. The purpose of the presentation will be to look at how to implement the following:
      1. Co-governance and equitable distribution of resources
      2. Participatory practices
      3. Participatory budgeting
      4. Community engagement and integration
      5. Racial equity practices
      6. Public/private partnerships through fiscal intermediary models
    - ii. HR&A is based on 3 pillars
      1. Equitable economic development
      2. Systemic change
      3. Visionary leadership
    - iii. Disparities in communities are not an accident, but a result of decisions made to create those disparities
    - iv. Shared story about HR&A project in Portland, Oregon designed to

**Commented [MM1]:** Is there more to this

- overhaul how city budget included community voice as part of process in response to mandate for racial equity strategy across the government
1. Designed a structure where community members would engage the community for feedback on questions that would assist in shaping the budget and provided strategy for community budgeting
- c. Participatory Budgeting Project– Kristania De Leon
- i. Role is to support partners engaging in participatory budgeting
  - ii. Participatory budgeting is a framework that facilitates community led and institution supported budget decision-making that is accessible and equitable
  - iii. Is comprised of 6 phases
    1. Design the process – steering committee that represents community creates the rules and engagement plan
    2. Brainstorm ideas – residents share and discuss ideas for projects
    3. Develop proposals – volunteer “budget delegates” develop ideas into proposals
    4. Fund winning projects
    5. Vote – residents vote on proposals that most serve the community
    6. Cycle is evaluated and refined every year and repeats
  - iv. Participatory Budgeting provides broader civic participation, stronger communities, and more transparent and inclusive decision-making, and more equitable, effective spending.
- d. Department of Health Services – Diana Zuniga
- i. Provided background on ATI work group and process of acquiring community engagement including the creation of a community engagement and racial equity advisory group for the closure of Men’s Central Jail.
  - ii. Public/private partnerships – fiscal intermediary models
    1. ATI work group was a public/private partnership and it developed fiscal intermediary models
    2. Reentry Health Advisory Collaborative (RHAC)
      - a. Although funded through philanthropy, RHAC is part of County infrastructure and consists of 11 formerly incarcerated people who are compensated for providing insight and feedback
    3. County COVID-19 Community Equity Fund – LA County Department of Health Services and Department of Public Health joined to determine how to equitably distribute resources to community-based organizations that were

- already providing services but weren't being paid for it.
- a. A fiscal intermediary was used for this project and through the intermediary, 51 organizations received funding.
- b. Developed a simplified solicitation process that prioritized impacted communities and was designed to allow smaller organizations to gain access to funds.
- c. County contracting and insurance requirements still posed a challenge despite intermediary.
- e. Following the presentation, facilitator Liz Sunwoo opened the meeting for public comment. The following people provided comment:
  - i. Tamala Takahashi
  - ii. Treneatra Muhammad
  - iii. Bryan Franklin
  - iv. Mary Sutton
  - v. Yusef Wiley
  - vi. Ken B.

**4. Draft Subcommittee Funding Recommendations Slate – 6 recommendations in slate**

- a. Ivette reviewed the 2 pathways of getting funding to community
  - i. Through a county program or initiative
  - ii. Third party administrator
- b. Funding recommendations will be discussed today, but the voting will take place during the next meeting
- c. Recommendations
  - i. Recommendation 1 - Identify a third-party administrator to fund community-based organizations (CBOs) directly.
    - 1. Third-party administrator criteria includes:
      - a. Expertise in equity-based workforce and small business development
      - b. Capacity to do County required auditing and reporting
      - c. Prioritize CBOs with annual budget of less than \$1.5 million and CBOs in Service Planning Areas (SPAs) in zip codes of economic disadvantage and impacted by LA County's carceral system.
    - 2. 5 minutes were provided for questions or comments from the public. The following people provided comments:
      - a. Jan Williams
      - b. Bamby Salcedo
      - c. Yusef Wiley
      - d. Carl from AMAAD
      - e. Phillip Rock Lester

- ii. Recommendation 2 - Eligible County programs can submit proposals for Measure J funds if and only if at least 85% of the funding is distributed directly to CBOs
- iii. Recommendation 3 - County identifies a stakeholder advisory board made up of carceral systems-impacted leadership (like the Reentry Health Advisory Collaborative, RHAC) to be a key decision-maker and advisor in the granting of measure J funds
  - 1. This body would advise the Board of Supervisors on final Measure J funding decisions
- iv. Public comment and questions
  - 1. Treneatra Muhammad
  - 2. Diane Ujiye
  - 3. Maagic Collins
  - 4. Hector Ramirez
  - 5. Carl
  - 6. Ken B
  - 7. Steve Delgado
- v. Recommendation 4 – Proposed guidelines for third-party administered and county administered funds for Measure J. Organizations and programs receiving funds must:
  - 1. Be led and primarily service the following priority populations that are most severely impacted by incarceration in LA County by the JENI and JESI index, which include:
    - a. Reentry community
    - b. BIPOC
    - c. Transgender and/or non-binary people
    - d. Young people
- vi. Recommendation 5 – Focus workforce development on reentry and high risk/diversion populations in geographic areas identified by the JENI (Justice Equity Need Index) and JESI (Justice Equity Supply Index)
  - 1. Included desired characteristics of funding programs
    - a. Peer driven models
    - b. Job training and placement models towards living wage jobs
    - c. Peer-driven social enterprise expansion and development models that center the experience of reentry and diversion populations
  - 2. Career Priorities included:
    - a. Living wage jobs and union jobs
    - b. Organizations led by BIPOC
    - c. Psychology and mental health
    - d. Health and geriatric care

- vii. Recommendation 6 – focus on small business in geo areas most impacted by incarceration, especially those owned by Black and indigenous and people and two spirit, trans, gender non-binary and queer people. Prioritize existing and new businesses that
  - 1. Hire reentry populations youth
  - 2. Have owners and operators that represent prioritized populations and geographies
  - 3. Provide healing and wellness to the community
- viii. Liz opened the meeting for public comment
  - 1. Meia Johnson
  - 2. Mary Sutton
  - 3. Stephan R.
  - 4. Califia Abwoon
  - 5. Diane Ujiye
  - 6. Carl
  - 7. Victoria Gomez

**5. General Public comment**

- a. The following people provided general public comment:
  - i. Maagic Collins

**6. Adjournment**

- a. Ivette and Dan provided closing comments.

Adjournment for the Measure J Re-Imagine LA Economic Opportunity and Sustainability Subcommittee of March 8, 2021.

There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned by co-chairs Dan Langford and Ivette Ale.